

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LA PAZ 04617 151151Z

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5793

UNCLAS LA PAZ 4617

EO 11652: NA

TAGS CDES XX

SUBJECT: SURVEY OF FUNERAL HOMES: DISPOSITION OF REMAINS REPORT

REF: STATE 127449

DISPOSITION OF REMAINS REPORT

A. MAXIMUM PERIOD BEFORE BURIAL:

1. WHEN BODY IS NOT EMBALMED: BURIAL MUST TAKE PLACE WITHIN 24 TO 36 HOURS AFTER DEATH. IN CASES OF DEATH DUE TO CONTAGIOUS DISEASE, BURIAL MAY TAKE PLACE BEFORE 24 HOURS HAVE ELAPSED UPON THE DECISION OF THE BOLIVIAN MUNICIPAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES.

B. EMBALMING:

DOCTORS IN ANY OF THE CLINICS OF LA PAZ CAN EMBALM REMAINS. EMBALMING SHOULD BE PERFORMED MORE THAN 24 HOURS BUT LESS THAN 36 HOURS AFTER DEATH.

C. CREAMATION:

CREMATION IS NOT PROHIBITED BY LAW, BUT THERE ARE NO PROPER FACILITIES AVAILABLE IN BOLIVIA.

D. CASKETS AND CONTAINERS:

WOODEN CASKETS MAY BE MADE IN MOST LOCALITIES IN BOLIVIA; METAL LININGS ARE THEN SPECIALLY ORDERED AND FITTED WITHIN

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THE WOODEN CASKETS BY LOCAL FUNERAL HOME OPERATORS.

PRIVATE COMPANIES SOMETIMES IMPORT METAL-LINED CASKETS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

E. EXPORTATION OF REMAINS:

BEFORE A BODY MAY BE EXPORTED FROM BOLIVIA, THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS MUST BE MET:

1. A DEATH CERTIFICATE, BASED UPON THE CERTIFICATE OF DEATH BY
A LICENSED PHYSICIAN, MUST BE OBTAINED FROM THE CIVIL REGISTRY.

1. TAX ON EXHUMATION AND EXPORTATION OF BODIES OF ADULTS \$20.00

2. TAX ON EXHUMATION AND EXPORTATION OF BODIES OF MINORS \$10.00

THE PESO BOLOVIANO IS QUOTED AT \$B.20.00 EQUALS US\$1.00

COMMENTS:

AUTOPSIES ARE OFTEN REQUIRED UNDER LOCAL POLICE REGULATIONS,
THE COST OF WHICH IS APPROXIMATELY \$100.00 FOR CHILDREN
AND \$250 FOR ADULTS.

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